

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the abstract beginning at page 24, paragraph [065], with the following abstract, marked to show changes:

A method and apparatus for frequency-updating for procedure inlining. The frequency-updating scheme assumes the call graph of a program has no cycles. It keeps the frequency for each procedure as accurate as that before inlining. Using the present invention, the runtime performance of a source program by a compiler is improved. A source program is analyzed to generate a call graph of the source program, wherein each of the procedures has a first known execution frequency. The call graph is used in conjunction with inlining plans by an inlining algorithm to generate an inlined version of the source program wherein selected call sites have been inlined. An updated execution frequency is generated for each of the procedures and the updated execution frequency for each of the procedures is used to generate optimized executable code for the source program. In various embodiments of the invention, heuristics can be used to calculate cost/benefit ratios for calls in the procedures of the source program to generate a ranking of the call sites and to select calls in the subroutines for inlining. The selected calls are inlined until a predetermined resources limit has been reached. An updated execution frequency is computed each time any of the call sites is inlined. In an embodiment of the invention, the updated execution frequency of the procedures determined by proportional adjustment, wherein the ratio between a procedure's frequency and its statement frequency remains unchanged.